



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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Situation Report Winter Storm Event February 3, 2009 11:30 AM

UPDATED INFORMATION IN BOLD

SUMMARY

A Canadian cold front pushed into Missouri on January 26th, mixing with Gulf moisture and creating hazardous weather conditions. There have been six fatalities reported in weather-related accidents throughout the state. Officials report power is out on about **31,000** meters across south and southeast Missouri. Dept of Social Services report **28** shelters with **668** clients. National Weather Service indicated some areas in south Missouri received from ½ to 1" of freezing rain. Other areas had up to 4" of sleet or up to 7" of snow. **High winds on February 3, 2009, caused additional outages that required additional repairs.** Governor Nixon directed SEMA to activate the State Emergency Operations Center and signed an Executive Order activating the Missouri National Guard for State Emergency Duty.

Governor Nixon requested an expedited Declaration of this disaster from the President. On Friday, the President approved Gov. Nixon's request for emergency assistance. The Missouri Attorney General's office issued a news release about potential disaster-related fraud and price gouging. The news release contains the number for the Consumer Protection Hotline, which is 800-392-8222. Governor Nixon signed Executive Order 09-07, authorizing DNR's Director to waive certain restrictions related to debris disposal, open burning and wastewater, on January 30, 2009 and effective until March 31, 2009.

SEMA has activated the State EOC to a level two activation. Appropriate State agencies have reported to the State EOC and are responding to requests from County and City officials.

Power outages - Utilities:

Ameren UE – About **7,400** meters are without power, primarily in southeast Missouri. Some 4,000 workers are involved in storm restoration efforts.

Missouri Electric Cooperatives – Several cooperatives are reporting **17,000** meters without power. Estimates are that at least 5,000 utility poles are down, in addition to transmission lines.

Missouri Public Utilities Alliance - An estimated **6,600** meters remain without power. Concentrating on City of Malden and City of Thayer. West Plains has released crews to help with other utilities.

Counties/Cities Reports:

Carter County – Health and wellness checks are continuing. Still have 1,000 rural residents without power. Roads are sloppy, but they are getting meals and water out to the rural residents. No critical needs at this time.

Dunklin County – All cities have water supply systems up and running. City of Malden has 70% electrical power. City of Campbell is up to 50% power. City of Clarkton is up to 75% power. **Shelter operations are winding down and feeding operations are on-going. No critical needs at this time.**

Howell County – City of West Plains has power restored, but significant outages remain in the County. Howell County officials reported 2,722 residents still without power on Monday, February 2nd. Most roads are open, at least single lane. Most of the remaining people out of power are in the southern portion of the county. **90% power has been restored. They have released their National Guard troops that were assisting them.**

Mississippi County – Charleston and East Prairie are at 100% power. Water is o.k. in Anniston. **City of Wyatt has had power restored. No critical needs at this time. Schools are going to try to re-open Wednesday.**

New Madrid County – Incident Support Team is still in place. **Schools are still out, primary concern is for the transportation of the students as they still have low wires hanging and debris in the roadways. No critical needs at this time.**

Oregon County – Conservation crews have completed debris clearance in rural part of county. **City of Thayer has about 80-85% power restored. Schools are planning to re-open on Wednesday.**

Ozark County – Still some residents without power. An estimated 75% of county roads are open. Wellness checks being conducted and as they are doing the checks they are delivering MRE's and water. All shelters are closed.

Pemiscot County - **Power is coming back up and there are no critical needs at this time. School officials are meeting today to determine when they can restart schools. City of Caruthersville has 95% of its power is back on.**

Ripley County –Water system is back up. About **60%** of power has been restored. City of Doniphan is at 80% and City of Naylor is about 100% power on. **MONG is conducting health and wellness checks, delivering water, and MREs to the more remote sections of the County. No critical needs at this time.**

Scott County – An estimated **70%** of customers in the county have had power restored. City of Sikeston reports **60%** of power is back on. Water systems are back up and running. **Hospital staff need is on going; they have a large population of patients. Public schools are planning to restart on Thursday and the Parochial Schools will restart on Friday. No critical needs at this time.**

Stoddard County – Conservation chainsaw crew and bulldozer assisted in debris clearance. All water districts are back up on electrical grid power or generator power. Schools will try to open on Wednesday. 100% of their wellness checks were completed. City of Dexter is doing further clean up. No critical needs at this time. **70% power has been restored. No critical needs at this time.**

State Agencies:

ESF-1 Transportation - Missouri Department of Transportation reports **26** road closures in southeast Missouri, either due to utility damage or debris on the road. Commercial Motor Vehicle waivers have been extended to February 5th. **Working on getting minor roads open and assisting with debris clearance.**

ESF-2 Communications – MSHP and PSC are working phone problems with the carriers, especially landlines. Scattered phone outages reported throughout Southeast Missouri. **All wireless service has been restored.**

ESF-3 Public Works – DNR/Water is working to assist local jurisdictions with their water utility system issues. They are issuing information on disinfecting water. Conservation has one chainsaw crew moving debris from roads

ESF-4/9 Fire/Search and Rescue - Missouri State Fire Marshal indicates 14 firefighters were sent to affected areas under mutual aid in Kennett. New Madrid County IST was replenished on Monday.

ESF-5 Emergency Management - SEMA is at level two activation and will operate the State EOC from 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. daily until further notice. SEMA officials encourage local jurisdictions to document their storm-related expenses for potential reimbursement, if a Federal Disaster Declaration is received for Public Assistance.

ESF-6 Human Services - Department of Social Services and partners -- American Red Cross, Salvation Army, AmeriCorps, United Way 211, Humane Society and others -- are continuing to serve shelters in several communities in the affected area. DSS employees are working in shelters, as well as assuring state services are continuing to families, both impacted and unaffected. Water and food have arrived in suitable quantities at the distribution centers. Shelter figures are winding down (28 shelters with 668 clients). Salvation Army, Red Cross and others continue to coordinate requests for food and water. **People with on-going problems – electrical weather head, food, water, home damage should call United Way 211. As shelters close, please make sure that if the cots were borrowed, that they get back to the loaner.**

ESF-7 Logistics – All outstanding requests to SEMA for generators are being addressed. As generators are being freed up, they are being reassigned or returned. MO Office of Administration reports a number of state offices and facilities are closed in the affected area. For state office building closures, call (888) 390-9927. Dept. of Corrections continues to have personnel and equipment delivering generators. In addition, the Community Supervision Center in Kennett is housing linemen in the area.

ESF- 8 Public Health – Department of Health and Senior Services is monitoring hospitals, long-term care facilities, local public health agencies, and senior and disabled clients. Checking with the hospitals and nursing homes to see if their generators are working properly and they have enough diesel. Continue to receive questions related to oxygen for individuals. Dept. of Mental Health assisting local healthcare providers as needed. Disaster-related fact sheets are on DMH website. DMAT personnel are assisting at Missouri Delta Hospital in Sikeston. **Tetanus vaccine is heading to Southeast Missouri.**

ESF-10 Hazardous Materials – DNR-EER is monitoring the situation and will respond if needed. Looking into debris management issues.

ESF-11 Agriculture – Dept. of Agriculture is monitoring the situation and handling some poultry issues that have arisen. Agriculture Department is checking building collapses in Southeast Missouri **and animal carcass removal.**

ESF-12 Energy – DNR Energy working to make sure fuel will be available for distribution in the affected area. PSC reminds affected people that weather heads are the customer's responsibility and not the utilities.

ESF-13 Public Safety – Missouri State Highway Patrol has troopers assisting local jurisdictions as requested, working accidents and keeping highways cleared of accidents. Officers assisting with curfew-enforcement in some affected areas. **5 resident Missouri State Water Patrolmen are assisting local**

jurisdictions in which they live. Two Camden County Deputy Sheriff's are assisting in Mississippi County and two MSHP Communications Officers are at Poplar Bluff supporting the Sikeston Mobile EOC.

ESF-14 Long Term Recovery – DNR/Parks has crews mobilizing into New Madrid and Mississippi Counties to begin restoration/recovery efforts at one historical site and one state park. Both locations were damaged in the storm and are without power.

ESF-15 Public Affairs – Working on a flyer for public safety tips.

ESF-16 Missouri National Guard – MONG has **357** citizen-soldiers assisting with the disaster response effort. Troops are assisting with wellness checks and debris clearance.

ESF-17 Animal Welfare – A Humane Society of Missouri survey team is in southeast Missouri to assist local jurisdictions. **196** animals rescued to date. **Still looking for additional dog food for distribution.** They have set up temporary kennels at Poplar Bluff, New Madrid and Portageville. They have emptied the shelters at Sikeston, Caruthersville and Kennett to make room for further 'drop-offs'.

Volunteer Agencies:

United Way – 211 – Up and running and taking calls. They have received about **568** calls to date.

American Red Cross – Assisting with Shelter requests.

AmeriCorps Volunteers – Several Teams providing support for shelters. Approximately **47** AmeriCorps Volunteers are working this disaster throughout the area.

Civil Air Patrol -- Ground, air, and communication assets remain on alert to assist if requested. Ground teams completed health and wellness checks in Malden. Aerial assessment photos taken of Sikeston, Kennett and Malden.

Convoy of Hope – Sent a truck to Poplar Bluff distribution site Wednesday with water and MREs.

Salvation Army – Assisting in feeding operations at various sites, as needed. Working with American Red Cross on the feeding situation.

Weather:

A strong cold front moved across Missouri in the overnight, dropping temperatures in the teens and bring brisk winds from the north. Missouri will be mostly cloudy today with highs in the 20s over much of the State. Wind gusts of up to 35 miles per hour for Tuesday morning. Little or no precipitation is expected; there may be a flurry or two this morning. There will be a warming trend into this week, with the next chance of precipitation Saturday and Sunday. This would appear to be a rain event.

Point of Contact:

The State Emergency Management Agency can be contacted at 573-526-9100 from 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. daily. Emergency calls after hours can be made to the Duty Officer at 573-751-2748.